





Have you been behind the bars?

- *Behind the bars (idiom) means jail.*

Vocabularies

Death penalty (n) dεθ 'pɛnəlti

established (n) ɪ'stæblɪʃt

executed (v) 'ɛksə'kjutəd

executions (n) ,ɛksə'kjuʃənz

opponents (n) ə'pəʊnənts

wrongful conviction (adj) 'rɒŋfəl
kən'vɪkʃən

crises (n) 'kraɪsɪz

unifying (adj) 'junə'faɪɪŋ

a. to kill someone as a legal punishment

b. when someone who did not do a crime
is found guilty by mistake

c. enemy; anti-

d. the process of killing someone as a
legal punishment

e. a feeling of becoming one; being united

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f. the legal punishment of death

g. plural of crisis

h. accepted or respected because of
having existed for a long period of time



Death Penalty in US – level 3



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Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

The **death penalty** is a legal penalty in the US, and it is currently used by 28 states.

Since 1976, when the death penalty was established again, more than 1,500 people have been **executed**. However, the number of **executions** has been going down.

Experts say that the COVID-19 slowdown could be an opportunity for opponents of the death penalty to make progress towards ending this practice. Issues such as **wrongful convictions** and executions, that were done badly, get a lot of public attention, and people's opinion on the death penalty is changing.

Experts believe that the current coronavirus crisis will change how society views the death penalty. Crises have a unifying effect, and many people find it more difficult to accept the death penalty as a form of punishment.

Understanding

True or False

- The death penalty is an illegal penalty in the US.
- More than 1,500 people have been executed since 1996.
- Covid-19 slowdown could be an opportunity for anti-death penalty, experts said.
- People's opinion about death penalty isn't changing.

Quick Check

- How many States are using the Death penalty law?
- What issues about this law were done badly and got a lot of public attention?
- How will the coronavirus crisis change the society's views about the death penalty?

Discussion

Why do we put people in jail?

- Is it to deter people from committing crimes? How?
- Is it to reform people? Does it reform them or make them worse? Do people come out of jail better people?
- Is it to keep dangerous people away from society? How can you tell when a person is "safe" to release?
- Is jail simply a method of obtaining revenge? Is it because criminals "deserve" punishment? Is revenge a good basis for a social institution?